Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The use of illegal and prescription drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute the greatest threat to the well-being of America's children; and,

Whereas, Twelve years of surveys conducted by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teenagers eat dinner with their families the less likely they are to smoke, drink, and use illegal drugs; and,

Whereas, Teenagers who eat dinner with their families two times a week or less are twice as likely to drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes, compared to teens who have frequent family dinners; and,

Whereas, Teenagers who eat dinner with their families are half as likely to smoke cigarettes, smoke marijuana, and drink alcohol; and,

Whereas, The correlation between family dinners and reduced risk for teen substance abuse are well documented; and,

Whereas, Parental engagement is known to be one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of substance abuse by teenagers; and,

Whereas, Family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of family life in America:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2007, as

FAMILY DAY
A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State